

NEGRO FARMERS PURCHASING LAND

Learning Better Methods of Farming and Home Making

AUBURN, ALA., Feb. 1.—Special to The Advertiser.—Outstanding among the development due to extension work in agriculture among negro farmers of the south is that more of them have become land and home owners, says an official report received today from the United States department of agriculture.

"Southern negro farmers," says the department, "are learning better methods of farming and home making. They are becoming land owners and home owners as a result of their renewed interest. Home ownership is the largest factor in the solution of the so-called negro problem and co-operative agricultural extension work has exerted a great influence in this direction. This is especially true since negroes have been appointed to act as demonstration agents."

The gradual increase in the number of negro agents and also in the appropriations for their support during the last 10 years gives much promise for the development of this work. During the first year under the Smith-Lever act there were 66 negro men and women demonstration agents; in 1924 there were 299.

During 1924, 3,659 negro farmers undertook demonstrations with cotton and 3,072 carried the work to completion and submitted reports. In addition, 2,630 junior club members planted an acre or more of cotton and 1,734 of them completed the work. Many of these boys cleared more than \$100 each on their acres and some more than \$200.

Corn has always been a favorite crop for demonstrations by adults and juniors in the south. More than 3,000 adults and 4,000 club members completed work with this crop. From a demonstration viewpoint alone, it is estimated that a million negro farmers and home makers are being influenced effectively. Demonstration with other crops and with livestock has been equally effective. The agents have visited in course of their demonstration work more than 28,000 farms and 26,000 homes.

The extension work for negroes and by negroes has been built up practically in the last 10 years, the report added. It is a fine tribute to the good work of the negro agents that, when the period of retrenchment came soon after the world war, their force and their appropriations were the only ones which were not reduced. With this

solid foundation, with this inspiring record, and with this successful history the near future holds out much hope for even more rapid development.

A copy of the circular can be obtained by writing to the United States department of agriculture, Washington, D. C.

Agricultural extension work among Alabama negroes is under the general direction of the extension service of the Alabama Polytechnic Institute with Tuskegee institute in immediate charge. Both cooperate with the United States department of agriculture. At present 20 local negro men agents are working in 22 counties and nine negro women are working in nine counties.

NEGRO FARMERS PURCHASING LAND IN THE SOUTH

(Preston News Service). Auburn, Ala., Feb. 11.—Outstanding among the developments due to extension work in agriculture among Negro farmers of the south is that more of them have become land owners and home owners.

Southern Negro farmers are learning better methods of farming and home-making, because of their renewed interest in farm life. Many of the Negro leaders of the south are advocating home ownership as one of the biggest factors in the so-called Negro problem and co-operative agricultural work has exerted wonderful influence in this respect. The numerous Negro extension agents have accomplished much in the material progress of the Negro farm population of the south.

The gradual increase in the number of Negro farm agents and also the appropriations for their support during the past ten years gives much promise of beneficial results to the various communities throughout the southern states.

Ten years ago there were only 66 Negro farm agents and in 1924 there were 299. During 1924, 3,659 Negro farmers undertook demonstrations with cotton and 3,072 carried the work through and reported results of their efforts. In addition junior club members planted an acre or more of cotton and 1,734 of them com-

pleted their work. Many of the boys made a profit of \$100 on their acre while some of them made as high as \$200.

Corn has always been a favorite crop for demonstration and more than 7,000 adults and boys completed these experiments successfully. It is estimated that now more than a million Negro farmers and home owners in the south are interested in demonstration work and have profited greatly thereby.

Agricultural extension work in Alabama among Negroes is under the direction of the extension service of the Alabama Polytechnic Institute with Tuskegee Institute in immediate charge of the work. Both of these institutions co-operate with the United States Department of Agriculture. At present there are 20 local Negro farm agents working in 22 counties in Alabama and nine Negro women are working in nine counties dealing with the training of the women for better homemaking.

BULLOCK FARMERS PLAN CONFERENCES ON DIVERSIFICATION

Harvester Company Superintendent Gives Formula For Successful Operation of Alabama Farm

Diversified farming is scheduled to get a further boost in Bullock county this week. Under the direction of the county agent a series of conferences will be held throughout the county. One of the chief speakers at these conferences will be S. M. Mobley, superintendent of the Southern farms for the International Harvester company, who is a practical dairy expert.

Mr. Mobley has been directed by his company to proceed to Union Springs this morning for the purpose of assisting in the program. Bullock county like Montgomery county is one of the richest blackbelt counties in the state with inestimable possibilities as a dairying section.

For the past four years the International Harvester company has been

conducting a demonstration farm about nine miles out of Montgomery. This farm, like all other such farms operated by these people, is a paying proposition. Last year the gross income on this farm was \$3,670 with operating expenses considerably below that figure. The income from this farm prior to the time it was taken over as a demonstration farm, was \$900.

Dairying is one of the regular year-round sources of cash income. During the month of April the sale of butter fat alone brought in the neat sum of \$165. Poultry, pigs and everything that goes to make up a model farm, adds to the income.

Do Not Attempt to Teach

Discussing the operation of the company's farms, Mr. Mobley said: "We do not attempt to 'teach' the farmers among whom we work. They know just as much about farming as we do. They know that diversified farming pays sure dividends every year. We simply practice, on our farm, what every farmer knows is 'safe farming.'"

"The trouble with the average farmer is his inability to down that American spirit of gambling. He sees, still being an experiment, but he thinks, a chance to make a 'killing' on some one particular crop and goes ahead. If he makes a good guess he is all to the good. If he misses, his losses are heavy. He knows that our methods, while perhaps not quite so attractive in certain years, prove sure each year. Sooner or later he will realize that it is best to follow our policies."

"Another thing, we never conduct a farm or any part of a farm at a loss. If we see that certain previously entertained ideas are not working out profitably, we change. Our policy is to study local conditions and adapt our methods to fit the surroundings. We have also found that certain theories, considered excellent at a distance, will not work under the conditions, therefore we adapt the theories to meet the conditions."

Uses Local Resources

"We believe in using the things found in the locality as a basis for building our farms. The dairy cows on our Montgomery county farm are Alabama bred cows. We use Alabama chickens; Alabama hogs and in fact we are one hundred per cent Alabamians. We pay our foreman a satisfactory salary, furnish him a modern home in which to live, supply milk, butter, chickens, eggs and meat from our farm. Pump water into his home chicken yard, pig pen, barn and shop. To get these things he must earn them and we never have any trouble on this score."

It is claimed that what the International Harvester company does on their farm can be done on any other farm in Alabama if the farmer will just get away from the "gambling" idea and plan his operations along sure profit producing lines. He must also remember that practical experience is the chief factor in the successful operation of the demonstration farm.

BUILD MACHINES TO PICK, STRIP COTTON

International Harvester Also Announces Development of Boll Cleaning Device

CHICAGO, Sept. 2.—(AP).—The machine age has contrived an apparatus that promises to replace the picturesque plodding cotton picker of Dixie with machines that pick, strip and clean the cotton.

The International Harvester company stated today that after many years of experimentation it has built three machines, a picker of a spindle type for use in the old south, a stripper for use in the southwest, and a cleaner for general use.

The company regards the picker as still being an experiment, but the stripper and cleaner already have proved their adaptability. A number of pickers have been placed in Dixie, where their performance will be carefully noted.

The problem in the old south is made more difficult because the entire crop cannot be picked at one time and a machine must pluck the ripened bolls without disturbing green ones which may be adjacent. In the southwest the cotton generally ripens evenly. Two men operate the machine, one guiding the tractor and the other controlling the picker, the International statement says. The machine can pick from two to five bales a day, equivalent to what two men could do in from weight to 15 days, it continued.

So far all the machines produced at the International plant have been hand made. Quantity production is awaiting final results of observations this year.

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NEGRO RAISES OWN WHEAT

A negro farmer called at the News this week, Felix Frederick, of Opelika, R. F. D. No. 7, subscriber of this paper many years and who said he was trying to interest a dozen negro farmers to form a wheat club in his community, and he wanted each one to enter their subscription to The Farmers Daily, as he said they would get so much valuable information about farming. This old negro rents 160 acres, and will get 30 bushels of wheat off two acres and this is a bad wheat year.

He says he raises his own wheat every year and has had to buy very little flour in the past 25 years. Also he seldom has to buy feedstuffs as he raises it on his farm.

DECATUR, Ala., Sept. 29.—Lean times do not mean much to Louis Narp, a leading Decatur County Farmer, who can sell off at almost any time of the year enough of his staple products to meet the necessities of life while waiting for his old-time favorite, King Cotton, to "Come Off."

Louis owns 612 acres of land just off State route No. 38, near town. It is all under fence and most of it is in cultivation. While he has not started in the bright leaf tobacco crop, he thinks it is a good money crop, but since he is getting along in years and knows the cotton crop he will not take up new crops, but advises his sons on the merit of tobacco for a good money crop in an off season and since studying soil values for it he thinks Decatur County abounds in fine tobacco soil.

Louis has sold in the last few months at the local markets 400 bushels of sweet potatoes at 75 cents a bushel; six barrels of syrup at 76 cents a gallon; 40 head of cows; 500 pounds of bacon at 30 cents a pound; six big cans of lard at 20 cents a pound, as well as hogs, chickens, eggs, turkeys, milk and butter.

Louis has never been in court, owes no man, has never been sued or threatened with suit and has money in the bank. His opinion and knowledge of things in general are often asked for. His is one of the oldest families in the County.

THIRTY-ONE CARS OF TURKEYS SOLD

Farmers Get About \$120,000 For Birds During Holiday Season

With the completion of the co-operative sale of Christmas turkeys by the Alabama Farm Bureau this week, the total number of turkeys handled in cooperative sales this Fall through the organization was brought to more than 50,000, amounting to 31 carloads. There was paid out for the turkeys of both Thanksgiving and Christmas cooperative sales this Fall, approximately \$120,000, it was stated. Practically treble the amount of last year.

The Christmas birds averaged about 11,000 a carload. They brought about \$35,000, with the average price per pound around 30 cents. They were sold to the Dixie Packing Company of Nashville and the Tennessee Egg Company of Chattanooga to be shipped mainly to Eastern markets. Three carloads went to Birmingham, however.

There were about 1,200 farmers participating in the Christmas sale of turkeys, with about 65 per cent negro tenant farmers. The greatest number of turkeys brought in by any one farmer was around 200.

Fourteen Alabama Counties took part in the Christmas sale, led by Lowndes County which had three cars. The cooperative sale was conducted by J. B. Sylvest and J. D. Moore, market agents, with county agents of the extension service cooperating.

Alabama had the second greatest number of cars of turkeys of any state in the Union on the New York market for Thanksgiving, it was stated here yesterday.

The market agents expect to follow up the turkey sales with a car-load movement of poultry on the same plan in the Spring, Mr. Sylvest said yesterday.

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A NEW YORKER INCLUDES GREATER HUNTSVILLE IN HIS REVIEW OF 1927 PROSPERITY SOUTHERN OUTLOOK

Increased buying power will result from the substantial development year in all Southern states, according to the 1927 review of J. W. Zorna, prominent New Yorker who recently visited Greater Huntsville. Mr. Zorna was making a tour of the South. The month or more spent down here convinced Mr. Zorna that this is one of the most prosperous sections in the whole of these United States. Commenting on his impressions, The Fourth Estate of New York says: "J. W. Zorna, vice president and manager of the New York office of Frost, Landis and Kolm (prominent national advertising representatives) reports this week after a southern trip that conditions throughout the South are excellent and that publishers, business men, and others, are thoroughly optimistic as to the future outlook for the Southern states."

Mr. Zorna has just completed a month's tour through Georgia, Alabama, Mississippi, Louisiana, South Carolina, North Carolina, and Virginia. Everywhere, he said, he found crops in fine shape, in fact, better than they have been in many years.

"Farmers are really beginning to pay some attention to the constant preaching of diversification of crops," he said. "They are getting away from the singular practice of producing only cotton. As a result, other crops are being raised and farmers are reaping the benefits. Particularly noticeable is the interest being taken in dairying."

In Columbus, Mississippi, E. Burney Innes, publisher of the Commercial Dispatch, told Mr. Zorna that dairying is becoming an important industry for that section of the state. Two or three large milk companies have located plants there, which will mean much to the farmers in the way of all-year-round industry. In addition, several cheese factories have been started. The same holds true for the territory surrounding Murfreesboro, Tennessee.

"Farmers seem greatly interested in this new industry," Mr. Zorna added, "and I believe it is destined to be one of the very important agricultural developments of the South."

Road building is going on unabated. In his travels through the seven states, he observed miles and miles of highway under construction.

The trend of northern industries coming into southern markets continues to be a striking development. Mr. Zorna explained this situation was noticeable everywhere and, in journeying through one of the States, he noted a modern plant in operation, from Chicopee, Massachusetts. In Hickory, Tennessee, he found plants operating even on Sundays.

Newspapers are keeping astride with the progress in commercial lines and are making wonderful advancement. Particularly

Alabama

is this true with regard to improvements and additions to newspaper plants. In Rock Mountain, North Carolina, the Telegram, he said, has probably one of the finest plants, of any newspaper of its size in the South. Also, in Huntsville, Alabama. The Daily Times is going ahead with the erection of a large twelve story structure, part of which will be occupied by the Times, and the remainder by offices and stores. In Anniston, Alabama, the Star has purchased the building adjoining its present plant and plans to remodel the two buildings into a modern and up-to-date newspaper office.

There was one phenomena of the up-and-coming spirit of the South that particularly impressed Mr. Zorna. This was the thriftiness and enterprise of the negroes. In commenting on this he recalled his visit to Vicksburgh, Mississippi.

"I was struck with the number of negroes in one of the leading banks there," he said, "and asked L. P. Cashman, publisher of the Post, what they were doing. Mr. Cashman's brother is cashier of one of the local banks, and he explained to us that the bank had many number of negroes carrying fine accounts, both business and savings, and that in many instances, the purchasing power of the negroes equaled that of the white population."

Negroes own their own homes, he said, own fine automobiles and are well represented in the commercial affairs of communities in which they reside. They have well-kept grocery stores, drug stores, and other retail businesses.

Nothing can hinder the forward stride of the South for this year, according to Mr. Zorna, with the exception of perhaps adverse weather conditions and unforeseen disaster to crops.

There is still evidence of the recent flood, particularly in Louisiana, where it will be impossible to grow any crops this year. However, there is a general feeling of optimism on the whole situation among the residents of Louisiana and Mississippi, he found, who feel that the water covering the ground has left the deposit of silt, which in turn will give the earth a new top soil which will eventually enable farmers to raise more and better crops. The general consensus of opinion is that the government should take the necessary precautions to prevent a similar disaster in the future.

As to leanings for presidential candidates, Mr. Zorna found the Southerners heartily favoring President Coolidge. This preference he believes, is based more on the question of prohibition, than on any religious issue. Prohibition receives the full endorsement of the citizenry below the Mason-Dixon line, he added, and those with

PROBLEMS OF SOUTH NEAR ADJUSTMENT

Education of Farmers Main Solution

Washington.—The founding of agricultural schools and the making of good farmers of the youth in the near future overcome many of the problems of racial adjustment in the south, believes Dr. E. H. Shenn, government authority in agricultural education. The authority stated that it was evident that a better understanding between the two races in the southern states, existed on the whites' favorable attitude on better educational opportunities for both groups. The expenditure for Race education last year totaled \$3,700,000.

AGRICULTURAL TRAINING SHOWS RESULT

The increased interest in better farming in the South is due to the interrelated efforts of the federal farm extension work, the Smith-Hughes vocational schools and the agricultural colleges in each of the southern states. The number of federally aided all-day agricultural schools has increased from 39 in 1917-18 to more than 254, and the enrollment has increased from 1,025 to 6,374. Government statistics show that more than 217,000 farmers in the South own their own farms, and that more than 700,000 are farm tenants. The first Race farm extension agent in the South was appointed in 1904. They now exceed 300 workers. Credit for the early co-operative demonstration work is given to Booker T. Washington and his Tuskegee institute in Alabama.

Improvement of A NEW DIXIE WEST OF ROCKY MOUNTAINS

Taken from "American Life" magazine by John H. Owens

Los Angeles, Calif., Aug.—"There are four chief textures of soil to be found in this locality, although these four may be found in various admixtures and gradations. The two finest grades for cotton production appear to be sandy loam and river silt. Adobe clay, (used for making bricks, as its name signifies is a heavy clay. It is difficult to plow and cultivate, packs close and hard after irrigation, and frequently the plants have difficulty in pushing up through the closely packed surface. Hard pan is a pebbly-appearing earth the pebbles in reality being small pellets of earth. Although less objectionable than adobe clay, it is not nearly so desirable as either sandy loam or river silt. The very best lands may produce as high as two bales to the acre; a bale and a half is frequently encountered, a half the acre is common, while one-half bale to the acre may be produced on the least desirable lands provided they contain no heavy alkali deposits.

"The absence of the boll-weevil is another factor which greatly facilitates cotton production in California. It seems that the female lays her eggs on the leaves of the plant or on the blossoms where the young worms are hatched. At a certain stage of growth the new-hatched egg falls to the ground and goes thru its larval period of development there, after which it ascends the stalk and punctures the young cotton plant.

"In irrigation farming it appears that the long periods of dryness between successive irrigation does not allow the larva sufficient moisture to continue its existence. One other advantage of irrigation farming is the regularity of crop productions. One need not be troubled about too much or too little rain or its entire absence when needed most. This particular valley has never 'missed' a crop.

Unsatisfactory social, political and economic conditions in the south have caused a migratory stirring among colored people during the years since the World War. In looking about for a place to locate many have 'trekked' to the cotton belts of California, and environment approximate those left behind in Dixie, but with a large degree of personal liberty for the individual. Since the Negro ruralist from the South knows more about cotton than anything else, he can always find a living wherever cotton is raised.

"Many of the Negroes are quiet, industrious and prosperous. Quite a few own farms of from 10 to 70 acres. This means a great deal when one considers the fact that irrigated land under cultivation is valued at \$40 to \$200 per acre. The majority of Negroes, however, are renters, tenant farmers or share-croppers. The farming of cotton under conditions of limited land tenure prevails in most cases. This is a regrettable and ob-

jectionable feature since it entails a constant moving for the tenant at the expiration of his lease which is usually terminated each spring. However, many of the tenants are far-sighted enough to secure long term leases; this affords them a better opportunity for making money. A few Negroes have homesteaded land in this region.

The metropolis of the valley is Blythe. Here our people have developed many small businesses. One of the largest and best equipped garages in the city is owned by a colored man. Mr. G. W. Murray is the official Chevrolet distributor for this district. His home is beautiful, modern bungalow on one of the main streets, and his garage is located on the famous "Sunkist" trail to the coast.

"It might be interesting to note in passing that about fifty miles from Blythe, in the state of Arizona, just across the Colorado River our people have developed a settlement called Vicksburg. About 50 Negroes have homestead 320 acres of land each, under the desert land act. They have already laid out a townsite, built several homes, and sunk wells for irrigation purposes.

"One Negro who has made an outstanding success as a farmer in the Palo Verde Valley is one Jacen Jackson. About five years ago he came into the valley in a wagon. He had a wife and three children and no tangible assets excepting a willingness and ability to work hard. This year he is farming 100 acres of cotton, several acres of barley, wheat and alfalfa, he owns about 14 horses and mules, a cow, pigs, turkeys, and about 100 hens, 11 goats, 2 burros, farming implements, five dogs, a wife and six children. He is regarded as the best farmer in the valley, black or white.

"The Imperial Valley has separate schools for white and Negro children, but this is in part due to the Negroes' negligence and inbred southern instincts. Many of the so-called race-leaders, advised the more militant Negroes against taking a stand opposing the innovation. They were afraid such an attitude might antagonize the whites.

FARMER RAISES 147 VARIETIES ON TEN ACRES

Produces Something Every
Day in the Year on Irrigated Hard Pan Soil

SACRAMENTO, Cal. Oct. 13—(PCN)—William N. Walker, colored rancher in the Robla district near here, claims to be the champion colored truck gardner of the Pacific coast states. His remarkable feat of producing 147 varieties of agricultural products on irrigated hard pan soil with little fertilizer, has attracted the attention of agriculturists throughout California.

Mr. Walker is one of the too few colored farmers in this district. He is a missionary of hard pan soil farming and claims that the hard pan soil of this district, shunned by many agriculturalists because of its shallowness, with little fertilizer and heavy irrigation is the best producing land in the West.

The soil on Walker's ten acres is from six inches to two and a half feet deep before hitting hard pan. But Walker has experimented and found varieties that will produce heavily in his place the year round. Something is being produced on Walker's ranch every day in the year and thus he has no seasonal crop worries.

For instance, he now has some serghum grain that stands eleven feet high and a sun flower that is twelve feet high. Mammoth melons, luscious grapes, big sized garden products and numerous other things to testify to the productivity of his ten-acre plot.

Plenty of Water

Walker's theory on farming hardpan soil is to use a small amount of commercial fertilizer, irrigate heavily (which he does from well and a pumping plant on the place), rotate the crops and select through experimentation, the varieties best suited to the conditions. He is also a strong advocate of diversified farming on

any kind of land.

Mr. Walker is somewhat a pioneer in cotton in this section. He has been growing cotton commercially on his place for nine years and has another successful crop this year.

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NEGRO FARMER MAKES HIGH RECORD

Virgil Kimball, a negro farmer who resides six miles southwest of Lake City, in Columbia county, set a mark this summer for Florida cotton producers to shoot at, according to reports to the Florida State Chamber of Commerce. Kimball picked more than six thousand pounds of cotton from six and half acres and from an experimental plot of one acre and one half has gathered 1,700 pounds with another picking yet to be made.

Kimball is only one of the many progressive negro farmers of Columbia county but his performances have been outstanding because he has had long experience and is well equipped with machinery. He is regarded in the county as little less than a wizard when agriculture is concerned and he has set a 75 bushel an acre corn crop for next year's goal.

INDEPENDENT

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LOT CULTIVATORS

MEET NEXT WEEK

NEGROES TO RECEIVE ALLOT-
MENTS OF GROUND AND
SEED FOR WORK

(From Yesterday's Late Edition)

Next meeting of those who are arranging for vacant lot cultivation by negroes is to be held next Tuesday morning at the McCabe Memorial church, when negroes are to

be present and allotment of vacant lots that have been donated, will be made.

M. W. Velsey, of the city assessor's office, who originated the idea of obtaining truck gardens for the negroes to work, said today that contributions of vacant lots loaned the committee, have been generous. Mr. Velsey intends to divide the lot gardens into districts, and he said that his most urgent need is for experienced southern dirt farmers to supervise gardens in each district. It would not require a great deal of time after the gardens are started, Mr. Velsey said, and anyone who wishes to aid the plan, is requested to see him.

Contributions for fertilizer are asked for by the sponsors of the plan, these contributions to be received by The Independent. The Independent will provide money for the seeds to be bought by the committee.

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Improvement of Diversification In The South

make for progress.

It is reported that the farmers of the South began the planting season with crop diversification in view more systematically and earnestly than ever before. It is said they have at-tempted seriously to break the cotton habit, and will grow more hogs, poultry, feed and food as a means of insuring less dependency upon cotton prices in the future. Viewing this news against the news of the economic crisis barely averted throughout the Southern states last fall when cotton prices did a toboggan, it be-comes one of the most hopeful morsels of infor-mation coming out of the South for a decade. It seems that the educational work in crop diversification that has been pushed forward by Southern governors, bankers, business men and, most of all, farm agents seems to be bearing fruit. Let us have more of it.

In the meantime while the South is getting ahold of the idea of varying its agricultural complexion in order to free itself from the one-crop system, let it be suggested that the diver-sification idea be carried even farther than agri-culture. Though the South is primarily agricul-tural and will remain so for many years to come, it need not remain in absolute dependence upon the products of its fields. Let the business men and bankers who have taken the lead in advo-cating diversification for the farmers seek to diversify the entire Southern area by the addi-tion of an industrial complex. Carry the diver-sification idea to the extent of the whole South with smokestacks that will be comforting when the crops don't do so well. This sort of diver-sification is sorely needed in the South.

Then the idea of crop variation can be car-ried out even in other needed lines. The South needs to diversify its intellectual complex. It needs to bring itself up from the bottom in the national educational rating. It needs to build schools and more of them in the barren wastes of ignorance and superstition. It needs to free itself from obscurantism, bigotry, intolerance and prejudices that seriously impede progress. Let the South have some intellectual diversifi-cation in a good measure.

But while diversification is in order, the idea need not stop there. Some political diversifi-cation, we suspect, would come as a mighty help to the South. Why should this section re-mained cursed with a one-party system any more than it should remain cursed with a one-crop system? Diversification in politics would be a good idea upon which the South might also embark.

Then, it might still go further. We suspect that it might not be a bad idea even for the South to diversify its religion. Probably if there were some diversification along this line Prot-estantism would not be so dogmatically certain that all other denominations are mere barba-rians. Then too, a variation of religious con-cepts throughout the South might conceivably

As we see it, there is no reason at all why the South should confine the diversification idea alone to crops, when there are so many other lines along which the same idea might profitably be carried out.

To Make Detailed Studies of South For Reclamation

WASHINGTON, March 14.—(AP)—With a view to determining their suitability for the creation of permanent, prosperous agri-cultural communities, detailed studies are being made of the seven tracts of land previously designated by the states of North and South Carolina, Georgia, Flor-ida, Alabama, Mississippi and Ten-nessee, the department of the In-terior announced today.

The work will be done under the general supervision of George C. Kutzner, director of reclama-tion economics of the bureau of reclamation.

Preliminary inspections have al-ready been made at Mount Holly, South Carolina and Albany, Ga. The remaining five tracts are at Maryland, Tenn.; Hattiesburg, Miss.; Selma, Ala.; Fort Lauder-dale, Fla.; and Pembroke, N. C.

RACE FARMERS HAVE BECOME A POWER IN U. S.

Government Report Shows Over 217,000 Farms Are Owned By Race; Many In Charge

WASHINGTON, D. C., Oct. 26.—A prodigious increase in the number of efficient colored American agri-culturalists in the South is overcom-ing many of the problems of racial adjustments, Dr. E. H. Shinn, the Government's specialist in agricul-tural education, believes.

Increase In Schools

In evidence of an already better understanding between the white popu-lation of Southern States and the Negro, is the former's favorable at-titude on better educational oppor-tunities for the race. The ex-penditure for Negro education last year totaled \$3,700,000.

Federal farm extension work, the Smith-Hughes Vocational Schools,

General.

and Negro agricultural colleges, in each of the Southern states, are in-ter-related in teaching better farm practices and helping Negroes to in-crease their earning power and to improve their homes and living con-ditions.

U. S. Aid Extended

The number of Federally aided all-day Negro Agricultural Schools has increased from thirty-nine in 1917 to more than 254, and the en-rollment has risen from 1,025 to 6,374. The figure represents ap-proximately 4 per cent of the 146,000 Negro farm boys between 14 years old and 20, now attending school. Last year 32,000 Negro boys were enrolled in club work.

"There is no doubt," Dr. Shinn says "that the extension work conducted by efficient Negro agents has had considerable influence in checking the movement of Negro farmers to the cities."

917,000 Operate Farms

Government statistics show that more than 217,000 Negroes in the South own farms, and more than 700,000 are farm tenants.

The first Negro farm-extension agent in the South was appointed in 1904. The number of their Govern-ment-trained, economic missionaries among persons of the race now exceed 300. Early cooperative dem-onstration work was aided materially by the pioneer Negro educator, Booker T. Washington, and his Tuskegee Institute in Alabama.

"No problem facing the nation to-day," Dr. Shinn says "offers such a supreme challenge to our demo-cratic ideal."

Cotton Picking Machine Made

Another picturesque feature of the old south is on its way to the discard, with the perfecting of a machine that will pick cotton. It will supplant the armies of singing, laughing negroes of both sexes and all ages, working through the vast whiteness of the cot-ton plantations.

It is destined to create a revolution in the cotton business fully as im-portant as the cotton gin, the spinning jenny and the reaper, says a Chicago dispatch. The International Harvester Company announces that the new ma-chine will cut the last bond that tied the cotton planter to slow and costly

hand labor and will drive hundreds of thousands of negroes to other employ-ment. Two men can operate the pick-er—one to drive the tractor hauling it and the other to manipulate the ma-chine. They can pick from two to five bales per day, equivalent to what two men could do by hand labor in 8 to 15 days.

Stands Hard Tests.

The International Harvester Com-pany has been working on the machine for years and now announces three machines that have stood hard tests. One picker is of the spindle type for use in the lowlands, where the cotton cannot be picked at one time, due to a long season of uneven ripening.

A second machine, known as the stripper or boller, is designated for harvesting upland cotton which ma-tures quickly and ripens evenly. The third machine is used to clean stripped cotton fiber and bolls. Its spindles pick only the lint, rejecting all other material, and conveys the lint auto-matically to a wagon, all ready for the gin.

A limited number of the machines are now working under close observa-tion in various parts of the south and it is believed the problem of gather-ing the cotton crop quickly and com-pletely has been solved.

Agriculture - 1927

Georgia.

Improvement of
Winder, Ga.

DEC 1 1927

A PROSPEROUS COLORED CITIZEN.

Willie Thomas, a respected colored citizen of Jackson county, is an example of what work and resourcefulness will accomplish. When the boll weevil, followed by the drouth, struck this county, he was the possessor of a farm for which he had pledged himself to pay \$50 per acre. He did not lose courage, abandon the farm and like many others seek a home elsewhere. He looked about for a more practical way out of a bad situation, and he found it. He began making and selling charcoal a product made from charring wood and used for heating purposes. Most of this coal was sold in Athens. The first year he sold eleven hundred dollars worth, and he gradually increased his output until in 1926 his sales amounted to \$1474. He is making this year about fifty bales of cotton on his 161 acre farm, and the purchase price of the farm is almost paid.—Jackson Herald.

Agriculture-1927

Improvement

MAR 13 1927

Magnificent Work By Colored Farmers

In The Chronicle appears the following significant advertisement that ought to be inspirational to the farmers of this entire section:

FOR SALE—8,000 bushels of corn and 10,000 bales of choice native hay. Phone 2140-J.

That is nothing extraordinary in itself, but to this section there is something striking about it. Investigation discloses the fact that the offerings are native grown and more than that produced by a colored farmer, or rather a family of farmers.

J. F. Thompson came to Augusta some 35 years ago from Union Point and started work as a drayman on cotton row. Long years of service have incapacitated him for further work, but his son Charles carries on and Harold, another son, is the farmer of the family, augmented by his mother John Ann Thompson, who started the family out in agriculture.

Harold began his work as a mere youth and rented land a short time until he bargained to buy a farm, the Taylor Hill place down the river, consisting of some 900 acres of land and, when this was settled for, he bought, with the assistance of other members of the family, the Lombard and Holmes tracts, comprising another 400 acres and has under lease at present 150 acres more land, or a total of about 1,500 acres.

Last year upwards of 10,000 bushels of corn was grown, more than 15,000 bales of hay, more than 30 bales of cotton and oats galore. He has sold thousands of bushels of oats, Fulghum seed oats, one Augustan buying 2,000 bushels and M. M. Daniels, of Millen buying 2,000 bushels. On the farm today is more than 300 acres of the finest oats imaginable, oats that make 50 or 75 bushels per acre.

The farm is equipped with tractors, power presses and other modern supplies that make farming in the Savannah river valley section a success. The story is one remarkable in that it shows what can be done in farming around Augusta and there is no question but that some day every acre of the fertile valley lands of this section will be utilized for agricultural purposes and it is certain that two blades of grass, or even five or six, will be made to grow where only one has grown heretofore.

The lesson of these colored farmers is one that ought to be inspirational throughout this entire section and a visit to the place, six or

seven miles down the Savannah river road, will show the public what is being done there and what can be done elsewhere around Augusta.

With the construction of immense dams above Augusta for water power purposes, plus the building of locks below the city for navigation purposes, the flood control of the Savannah river would be well nigh perfect. With this done a vast acreage could be opened up with a reasonable degree of safety from any overflow and farming on an extensive scale could be carried on from every viewpoint around Augusta. It is worth considering and means great things for those who go into the proposition and pursue the work on an intelligent basis.

Anybody who has some 8,000 bushels of fine corn and 10,000 bales of choice native hay to sell at this season has little to worry about in making a success of agricultural operations. The Thompson family, colored, is doing much to demonstrate the possibilities in farming and it is a great pity that thousands of both white and black farmers of this section do not emulate their example and grow the things needed home.

In addition to these stable crops the Thompson grow quite a quantity of hogs, some chickens, some truck and other products that contribute to swelling the coffers of the family.

NEGRO SELLS FIRST

BALE AT FITZGERALD

Fitzgerald, Ga., Aug. 3.—For the third consecutive year Grant Lewis, a Negro farmer, has gathered the first bale of Ben Hill County cotton, bringing it to market last Thursday. Henry Tomberlin, of Wilcox County, brought in the first bale for this county Wednesday and sold it on the local market for 22 cents per pound.

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NEGRO GETS PRIZE FOR CORN YIELD

AMERICUS, Ga., March 10.—Mack Maneal, a negro, has just been awarded a \$35 cash prize by the Sumter County Agricultural Board, he having produced the largest corn acreage yield in Sumter County during the past year, raising 392.4 bushels on five acres, an average of 78.48 bushels per acre, and C. C. Hawkins, white, received \$25 in cash second prize, he having produced 382.5 bushels on five acres, an average of 76.5 bushels per acre.

Lott Jennings, who was awarded third prize, produced 377.8 bushels on a five-acre tract, and average of 75.56 bushels per acre. The highest cotton yield produced in the club class was that of W. T. Webb, who received a \$25 prize. He picked 2,745 pounds of lint and 5,177 pounds of seed on five acres, the value of the lint and seed being estimated at \$445.14.

In the boys' cotton club, J. C. Webb, Jr., first prize winner, produced 829 pounds of lint cotton on an acre, and was awarded \$15; Ray Wiggins, second prize winner, picked 637 pounds of lint on an acre, and was awarded \$10; Walter Wiggins, third prize winner, picked 602 pounds of lint on an acre, and was awarded \$7. In the boys' corn club, Thomas Jennings won first prize, \$15; producing 3 bushels corn per acre; Marvin McNeill, second, 70 bushels, and James Nicholson, third, 61 bushels.

VOCATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STUDENTS SET NEW RECORDS

Haywood Malley, vocational agricultural student at the Pender County Training School, has the honor of getting the highest price paid for strawberries grown near Rocky Point this spring. The local commission merchants offered the pupil \$11 per crate for his strawberries. By following the instruction of the vocational teacher, Haywood received \$19 per crate instead of \$11. This is the highest price paid for strawberries on the Rocky Point market in twenty years.

Through the leadership of Professor S. C. Anderson and his vocational school, Rocky Point is destined to be one of the chief poultry producing centers of the state. The development of the poultry industry had its beginning five years ago with a project of ten purebred Plymouth Rock hens.

This number has been increased from 10 hens to 965 purebred poultry. The school hatchery, which is operated by the agricultural students, has hatched and placed on the farms in the community 2,409 baby chicks during the present incubation period. The slogan is "An average of 100 pure bred hens on 50 farms."

ATLANTA, GA.

Progress in Hancock By Negro Farmers

SPARTA, Ga., April 8.—Much progress is being made by the negro farmers of Hancock County through the efforts of the local colored farm agent, Edgar L. Cooper, who was employed some months ago by the Hancock County Board of Commissioners. The agent already has organized seven community farming clubs among the negro farmers in the county, and they are co-operating with him splendidly in his work, according to a recent report. He is now enlisting members in boys' and girls' poultry, 3 bushels corn per acre; Marvin McNeill, second, 70 bushels, and James Nicholson, third, 61 bushels.

FARMERS' CREED FOR 1927.

At the annual conference of Georgia farmers, extension forces and workers in correlated interests held in Athens last week, Dr. Andrew M. Soule, president of the State College of Agriculture, issued the following as the farmers' creed for 1927:—36-27

"Let us develop Georgia from the mountains to the sea.
"Recover her washed hillside with the resplendent verdure of the forest.
"Drain out her bottom lands and make them pay tribute to Kings Grain and Grass.
"Enrich our soils by the uniform growth of legumes thereon.
"Develop animal industries commensurate with our needs.
"Diversify our cropping program and make our farmers self-contained and self-sustaining.
"Stabilize cotton production and make it our main money crop without injury to our economic welfare.
"Enrich and supply the markets

the world with our surplus crops and make the nations pay tribute to the genius of our people."

This is idealistic and altruistic enough to sound good, and basically sound enough to emancipate the farmers from every distress and depression if they will but follow it. The Constitution has never varied one iota in the position it has taken Secretary of state's position appears to be, under the circumstances, entirely sound and praiseworthy. Our nationals are to be protected at all hazards, but it is not incumbent upon the United States to become involved in any effort at foreign exploitations in China, or to throttle the potential movement of her own people for a real democracy.

NEGRO FARMERS DIVERSIFY

SPARTA, Ga., Feb. 26.—The negroes in the northern section of Hancock County in the community known as Springfield, are making an enviable record in diversified farming. These farmers, headed by E. G. Washington, teacher of vocational education in the Springfield school, are marketing all of their eggs, cream and other farm products. Washington visits each negro farmer twice each week and collects all of the products for sale. The cream is sold to the Sparta Cream Station and the eggs are packed in cases and shipped to city markets.

Negro Farmer Host To 300 White People

High Tribute Paid Young By White Speakers At Big Barbecue

Millen, Ga., July 23—(Special)—One of the most unusual events of the year took place in the upper edge of Jenkins county Friday when John Young, Negro, age 34, played host to about 300 of his white friends at a sumptuous barbecue dinner served on the farm which he occupies as a renter from Mrs. M. H. Brinson. The town of Millen, Waynesboro, Middle and Butts were represented at the cue. Each year Young plays host to many friends out of his heart of appreciation for the cooperative spirit manifested and for the good providence that aids him in making a great crop each year.

Young rents a 5-horse farm, makes from 50 to 60 bales of cotton each year, sold 500 bushels of corn last season and 200 bushels of peas. He also raises plenty of meat, poultry and milks three cows. He owns hives, mules, all farming implements, a car, a truck, a piano, and a radio, adding that the tour be made an annual affair.

All of this he has accumulated by hard, consistent effort coupled with the ambition to be the best Negro farmer in Jenkins county. Young for the past two years has gained the first bale of cotton in Jenkins county.

On this occasion the Millen Concert band was invited and played during the festivities. Short speeches were made by F. A. Grimes, D. A. Bragg, Dr. Bent, M. L. Winburn and E. G. Weathers. High tribute was paid Young for his splendid efforts at entertaining and his ability to profitably run a well-balanced farm.

NEGRO LEADERS TOUR OF STATE Success Follows Efforts in 40 Counties Visited

The party of educators, headed by President Benjamin F. Hubert of the Georgia State Industrial College, which has been touring the state for the last ten days, in an effort to get a better grasp of the problems, opportunities and resources of Georgia, returned to Savannah yesterday morning after covering more than forty counties and speaking to more than 10,000 people.

In passing through the different counties, it was usually evidenters and the agent attending. from farm and home conditions. June and July, six weeks of what the general attitude and spirit of the people were, whether or not summer school in Waycross for a Smith-Hughes or Smith-Lever worker was in the county. This emphasizes the necessity of trained agricultural leadership in every county in the state, said President Hubert.

In speaking of this fact, he said that "it shall be one of the chief aims of the Georgia State Industrial College to prepare this type of leadership in the development of Georgia." Further, he said, that since making this tour and observing the agricultural, educational and industrial conditions over the state, the course of the Georgia State Industrial College is clear—to train leaders with an eye single to the development of Georgia.

One of the outstanding features of this tour has been the interest shown in the meetings and object reached, irrespective of race. Another outstanding thing was that in almost every community, there were one or more negro farmers who had made a success at farming and had been able to accumulate not only splendid farms but had been well equipped with modern farm implements and livestock and in addition, were prosperous. In a great many cases, however, it was noticed that the boys and girls reared on these farms were being educated to go into work other than farming. This, too, emphasized the need of training for rural boys and girls which will bring out the appreciation of some of the fine things of rural life, he said. The consensus of opinion in every county reached is that this tour has already done a great deal in arousing the people of the state toward the opportunities for development being offered right here in Georgia and suggestions are being made everywhere that the tour be made an annual affair.

Association in Macon, five teachers and the agent attending. Quitman, Ga., Free Press

July 25-29, Ware County Farm Boys and Girls Short Course, in Waycross, fifty boys and girls attending. July 28-29 Southeast Georgia Negro Farmers Convention in Waycross, 159 delegates from 20 counties. September, 4-N Club contest in Savannah, 25 members from Ware county and agent attending. Sending of County Exhibits to Ware County Fair, Georgia State Fair in Savannah, Southeastern Fair in Atlanta and Georgia position in Macon.

JUN 18 1927
TOUR MEETS WITH
MUCH ENTHUSIASM
"Know Georgia" Trip Proving Successful

President Hubert, of the Georgia State Industrial college and his party touring the state, are meeting with enthusiastic responses from both races everywhere the party goes.

Having passed through over twenty-five counties in South and Southwest Georgia and spoken to as many audiences, the Know-Georgia-Tour, made up of citizens of Savannah and various other sections of the state are making great headway in having the state Know Georgia, Believe in Georgia and Build Georgia.

At the meetings all along the way, the speakers have called attention to the great possibilities in Georgia for advancement, economically and socially, provided "we will let down our buckets where we are." Rev. E. G. Thomas of the African Baptist church of Savannah, spoke enthusiastically to audiences at Dawson, Cuthbert, Americus and Fort Valley upon the great service that the Georgia State college can tender the state in working out a program that will build Georgia if white and colored people will back up the efforts of the president to make the college serve the entire state.

S. H. Rosenwald, school agent for Georgia, said that if the state will build better schools in Georgia, negroes will be trained to help promote the best interests of their native state. P. T. Stone, the state agent for negro farm demonstration work, is carrying a message of "Better Farming" as the great factor in building a bigger and better Georgia. Those in the party say that the whole state is being awakened as never before.

February 14-15, Georgia Negro Farmers Conference in Savannah, three farmers and the agent attending. March 10-11, Middle Georgia Negro Farmers Meat Show in Fort Valley, ten farmers and the agent attending. April 13-15, Georgia Educational

Association in Macon, five teachers and the agent attending. Quitman, Ga., Free Press

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Quitman, Ga., Free Press

JUN 17 1927
KNOW GEORGIA TOUR
WAS HERE SUNDAY.

B. F. Hubert, former instructor at Tuskegee, and now head of the Georgia State Industrial college the State institution for negroes, was in Quitman last Sunday on a Know Georgia Tour. He was accompanied by a party of men and women state agricultural and home economic agents who are working for the development of the negro in the agricultural sections of Georgia.

The party was met at Dockett's Pharmacy and greeted by leading colored citizens of Quitman who joined them on a trip out to Simmons Hill to inspect the model school building recently completed there with the aid of the Rosenwald Fund. Here the party had dinner and there was an interesting program. Rev. Walter Tillman introduced S. H. Lee, Rosenwald agent for colored schools in Georgia who conducted the program and explained the progress the schools are making.

B. F. Hubert, president of the Georgia Industrial College, was for a number of years head of the agricultural department at Tuskegee, is trying to get some real facts about agricultural possibilities in Georgia for the negro.

He said it is almost inconceivable that people will leave Georgia with its rich, productive soil and warm climate and seek better living conditions elsewhere. His program is to know Georgia, know the soil, develop the soil and make it produce a surplus of grain, hay, vegetables, cows, hogs, hens, and everything needed.

To this end he said Georgia needs a farm demonstrator in every county to work with the colored farmers and a county training school to teach the boys and girls improved agricultural methods, mechanical arts and home economics.

Annie L. Dickson, home economics teacher in the State Industrial College, said that in addition to teaching the people how to raise more produce on the farms, they also should be taught how to preserve food products and improve their home and living conditions. She said the house-wife who knows home economics, knows how to prepare a balanced meal, what to cook and how to cook it, is worth more to the family in the way of health than the family doctor.

In 1925 Louis made \$1,200 on cotton, and he expects fifteen good, heavy bales this year if things go reasonably well, he said. Louis has never been in court, owes no man, has never been sued or threatened with suit, and has money in the bank. His opinion and knowledge of things in general are often asked for. His is one of the oldest families in the county. Their "White folks" were the Dickensons, and his wife recalls the days when she accompanied her little "Miss" to Sunday school and watched her from the balcony.

WYATT, GA. HERALD

AUG 5 1927

DECATUR NEGRO

Is Good Farmer And Prosperous

Louis Harp Owns 612 Acre And Has Products to Sell All Year Round.

BAINBRIDGE, Aug. 5.—Lear times do not mean much to Louis Harp, a leading Decatur County negro farmer, who can sell off at almost any time of the year enough of his staple products to meet the necessities of life while waiting for his old-time favorite, King Cotton, to "come off."

Louis owns 612 acres of land just off state route No. 38, near town. It is all under fence and most of it is in cultivation. While he has not started in the bright leaf tobacco crop, he thinks it a good money crop, but since he is getting along in years and knows the cotton crop he will not take up new crops, but advises his sons on the merit of tobacco for a good money crop in an off season, and since studying soil values for it he thinks Decatur County abounds in fine tobacco soil.

Louis has sold in the last few months at the local markets 400 bushels of sweet potatoes at 75 cents a bushel; six barrels of syrup at 75 cents a gallon; 40 head of cows; 500 pounds of bacon at 30 cents a pound; six big cans of lard at 20 cents a pound, as well as hogs, chickens, eggs, turkeys, milk and butter.

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Improvement of How a Balanced Program Saved a Laurens Farmer

(From The Dublin Courier-Herald.)
January, 1922, found Julian Witherington a mechanic in an automobile repair shop. His business had gone to pieces and in spite of his heroic efforts, things were going mighty bad for Mr. Witherington. Renting a farm near town he followed the cotton and corn system for that year, only to find himself \$1,500 in debt at the end of the year. Realizing that a change in his system of farming must take place, he decided to adopt the hog, cow and hen program.

So, in January, 1923, he secured five grade Jerseys, two Duroc Jersey sows and a few Barred-Rock hens, planned his crops to conform to the needs of this live stock and poultry, turned his little ship around and set sail.

In addition to paying off the indebtedness of \$1,500, an inventory taken by Mr. Witherington on January 1 discloses the following facts:

He has bought and paid for 30 acres of land on which he now lives, and which he has equipped with housing facilities for his live stock, poultry and other farm products, which cost him	\$1,500
24 head of cows and heifers ..	1,300
39 hogs	658
75 pure bred hens	150
2 mules	400
Modern farm machinery	1,600
400 bushels corn at 70 cents ..	280
3 tons O-To-Tan hay	105
Cow feed	300
Total inventory	\$5,693
To which add deficit to start with	1,500

Net earnings for four years, \$7,193
Divided by years, each of four years shows a net profit of \$1,798.25, net gain after supporting his family.

When asked about labor troubles, Mr. Witherington replied that he had had none, for he said, "My family and I have done the work."

In the case of Mr. Witherington we have another striking example of what hard, consistent effort will produce, when added to the proper system of farming. While his case is by no means spectacular, it goes to show that there is nothing fundamentally wrong with farming in Laurens county, but demonstrates clearly that "there is more in the man than in the land."

When Mr. Witherington saw little hopes for the future, and with debt hanging heavy over him, he sought the advice of County Agent Hart in making his plans for the future. From that day Mr. Witherington has kept in close touch with Mr. Hart and followed closely his suggestions.

ATLANTA, GA. NEWS
AUG 11 1927

Negro farmers of Ware county during the last year killed approximately twenty thousand pounds of meat, showing an increasing interest in livestock production, it is reported by authorities. A large portion of this amount was cured at the local packing plant and abattoir, while part of it was cured at home by the brine method.

Sumter Co. Negro Wins Corn Prize

AMERICUS, Ga., March 10. - For having produced 322.4 bushels of corn on 1.2 acres, or an average of 78.48 bushels per acre, Mack Maneal, a negro, has just been awarded a \$25 cash prize by the Sumter County Agricultural Board. A second prize of \$25 was awarded C. C. Hawkins, white, who produced 322.5 bushels of five acres, an average of 76.5 bushels per acre, and scored by the negroes on the farm third prize of \$10 was given Lott Jennings, white, who produced 377.8 bushels on a five-acre tract, an average of 75.56 bushels per acre.

W. T. Webb was given \$25 for having produced the highest cotton yield, picking 2,745 pounds of lint and 5,177 pounds of seed on five acres, the value of both being estimated at \$445.14.

In the Boys' Cotton Club, J. C. Webb, Jr., who produced 829 pounds of lint cotton on a single acre, won first prize of \$15; Ray Wiggins was awarded \$10, second prize, for producing 637 pounds, and Walter Wiggins received \$7 as third prize, having picked 602 pounds of lint off an acre.

Thomas Jennings, who won first prize in the Boys' Corn Club contest, produced 73 bushels per acre; Marvin McNeill won second with 70 bushels, and James Nicholson, third, with 61 bushels.

Spauld, Ga., Telegraph

SEP 2 1927

NEGROES GOOD FARMERS

It is becoming more apparent from year to year that the negro is capable of making a good farmer. In fact has been the labor of the negro, for all these years, that has produced a greater portion of the agricultural products of the South. It is true, the exodus of the negroes to eastern and western states, has caused a considerable falling off of farm labor and much idle land has resulted in their departure. However, those who have remained in the South and devoted their efforts to farming, have something to show for their industry.

In many localities in this state,

negroes own valuable farm lands and succeed in growing splendid crops. It is interesting to note the increase in land purchases by the negro. In fact many of them own their homes in the towns and cities as well as farms. The white people of the South are not only kind and generous to the negro, but whenever a deserving spirit is shown on their part, white citizens never fail to rally to their support and to aid them in every way possible.

The Charlotte (N. C.) Observer in commenting on the negro farmer makes the following timely remarks: "Southern farmers have made note in recent years of the progress being

made by the negroes on the farm. This progress is indicated largely in the circumstances that instead of being content with occupation as crop-

pers, they are turning to land ownership. It is home ownership in the towns that has revolutionized the condition of the negro in the town, and

farm owning is doing the same for him in the country. Mere knowledge of possession of farm or home makes

a better citizen of the negro. The system of agricultural work among negroes is largely responsible for their recent advancement on the farm. The

agricultural advancement on the farm. The agricultural department at Washington is advertant to this fact in the course of a report that is just made

covering the different phases of that work for the past ten years. The encouraging word is sent out that

"white folks" were the Dickensons, Southern negro farmers are learning and better methods of farming and homes making. They are becoming land

owners as a result of their renewed interest. The report maintains that home ownership is the largest factor

in the solution of the so-called negro problem.

Colquh, Ga. Sun

AUG 12 1927

Decatur Negro

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negro farmer, who can sell off at almost any time of the year enough of his staple products to meet the necessities of life while waiting for his old-time favorite, King Cotton to "come off."

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Louis has sold in the last few months at the local markets 400 bushels of sweet potatoes at 75 cents a bushel; six barrels of syrup at 75 cents a gallon; 40 head of cows; 500 pounds of bacon at 30 cents a pound; six big cans of lard at 20 cents a pound, as well as hogs, chickens, eggs, turkeys, milk and butter.

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often asked for. His is one of the oldest families in the county. Their "white folks" were the Dickensons, and his wife recalls the days when she accompanied her little "Miss" to Sunday school and watched her from the balcony.—The Albany Her-

West Point, Ga., News

AUG 11 1927

Colored Farmer

Makes Fine Record

West Point, Ga.
Aug. 11, 1927

Editor News:

Some people say you cannot make a living on the farm. Before we accept that statement let us look into a few

facts in this connection.

I know one good, humble negro, whose name is Ben Patillo, who has sold \$213.50 worth of watermelons off one acre of land and has more to sell. He has sold \$75.00 worth of melons to one man who hauled them in his own truck from the watermelon field. Ben has two good milch cows which he milks himself. This year he has sold five hundred pounds of butter, which brought him \$200.

He also makes cotton, corn, syrup and everything else in proportion. In 1920 he owed a balance of \$225.00 to Eady-Baker Grocery Co. He has paid every dollar with interest and has some money in the bank. This negro lives four miles beyond Jones' Cross Roads on lands of Dr. Welcher. He now owes \$200.00 for

this year's supplies, including guano and has a good crop of corn, cotton, peas, potatoes, etc. I know these statements to be correct. This shows what can be done on the farm.

W. J. K.

Athens, Ga., Banner Herald

AUG 11 1927

NEGRO MAKES PROFIT ON HIS DAIRY FARM

Here is what a colored farmer in Mississippi has accomplished with a dairy farm and any farmer around Athens can do as well. Land owners in Mississippi are encouraging their colored renters to add dairying to their work. This is what one negro has done.

"Hard work and attention to the needs of the milking cow has put William Ellis, negro, residing near Starkville in a position where he draws checks for around \$500 a month for the cream from his herd of 35 cows. The best of care, sanitary and comfortable housing, good pastures and well-filled silos, as among his rules for success.

Feeding and other expenses run around \$165 a month, leaving a good profit. Ellis owns his own small farm. He has equipped it with a barn and separator houses, both having concrete floors, and his home has a running water system. He aims to produce the cleanest milk possible.

While the success of Ellis is outstanding among negro farm owners, some negro tenants around Starkville are also proving good dairymen. One farmer reported that his ten negro farmers average \$146 a month on their work with small dairy herds. Many negro tenants are taking up dairying as a sideline. One farm owner at Tupelo reported that his negro tenants wanted from five to 20 cows each.

MACON, GA. TELEGRAPH.

AUG 7 1927

Decatur's Leading Negro Planter Is Booster For Leas

BAINBRIDGE, Ga., Aug. 6. — Lean times do not mean much to Louis Harp, a leading Decatur county negro farmer who can sell off at almost any time of the year enough of his staple products to meet the necessities of life while waiting for his old time favorite King Cotton to "come off."

Louis owns 612 acres of land just off route 38 near town. It is all under fence and almost all of it is in cultivation.

While he has not started in the bright tobacco crop he thinks it a good money crop but since he is getting along in years and knows the cotton crop he will not take up new crops but advises his sons on the merit of bright tobacco for a good money crop at an off-season and since studying soil values for it he thinks that Decatur county abounds in fine tobacco soil.

Louis has sold in the past few months at the local markets 400 bushels of sweet potatoes at 75c a bushel; six barrels of syrup at 75c a gallon; 40 head of cows; 500 pounds of bacon at 30c a pound; six big cans of lard at 20c a pound as well as hogs, chickens, eggs, turkeys, milk and butter all along.

In 1925 Louis made \$1200 on cotton and he expects fifteen heavy bales this year if things go reasonably well, he said. A negro, who has never been in court, owes no man, has never been sued or threatened with suit, and has money in the bank, his opinion and knowledge of things in general is often asked for. His is one of the oldest families in the county. Their "white folks" were the Dickenson's and his wife recalls the days when she accompanied her little "Miss" to Sunday school and watched her from the balcony.

PROGRESS

JUN 1927

Fertile Soil Yields Cash

The possibilities of fertile and productive soil is pictured in a letter published in the Macon Telegraph last Saturday. It tells of what has been accomplished on a small acreage in Florida. That land is naturally fertile. Georgia land is not so productive, but it can be made almost as good in this respect as the Florida land, as has been demonstrated by experiments. The yield in all kinds of truck crops on improved land will compare favorably with that of Florida. The thing to do is to bring the Georgia land up to a productivity that will make the soil on a small acreage yield the cash. Our county demonstrators, in co-operation with the state agricultural department, have been pointing the way by the cultivation of such crops that will improve the soil and increase the cash income to a point where farming will become profitable to all tillers of the soil, whether it is devoted to truck or staple crops.

Below we quote an extract from the letter in the Telegraph, which shows what can be accomplished on a small acreage. It says:

On a drive up from Miami to West Palm Beach, we passed through Pompano, where so many Macon people go for the winter—so many that there may be found a Macon colony. Howard Jelks, formerly of Macon, and earlier of Hawkinsville, spied, in front of a store along the roadside, an old negro he had known at Hawkinsville. He stopped to speak to him.

"How did you come out this year, George?" he asked, inquiring, of course, after the Negro's crops.

"I did pretty well, Mr. Howard," the Negro replied. "I made \$9,000 clear." The Negro said he had ten acres of land—ten acres of the black Everglades muck that will grow from a shingle to a tree overnight.

"The only trouble is that there are comparatively few farmers in southern Florida. During the boom, the developers went as far west as forty miles from Miami, bought up acreage, paved the streets, put fountains and white way posts in, built a country club and a hotel and set up stakes. The farmer moved into town to spend his money and his groves and his farm grew up in weeds. Now, one may see farmers ploughing ground between paved streets. In the adjustment, much of the "townsite" lands is going back into farms. One Dutchman who had three acres of land and sold it to a prospector for \$2,400 bought it back for \$9,000 when the boom was at its peak and is now making \$7,000 a year from it, on beans and other truck.

"In the readjustment, these farm lands are being reckoned quite as much an asset as the buildings along Flagler street."

VALDOSTA, GA. Times

AUG 24 1927

Has Corn Experiment.

D. C. Boykin, who is in charge of the colored school at Mount Zion and whose success with vocational work has attracted much attention has an interesting corn experiment under way. He planted corn of all the recommended varieties, as well as various standard and local variations. His experiment was worked out on the school grounds at Mount Zion. The result was that the Whatley's Prolific, the variety recommended for planting in this section by the College of Agriculture led all other varieties.

Agriculture - 1927
Improvement of

Georgia.

AMERICUS, Ga. 10-11-27

AUG 15 1927

400 Sumter Negro Farmers Pledge to Produce All Their Food Supplies Next Year

Four hundred negro farmers attended the three-day farmers institute and barbecue which was made possible by donations from white concerns of Americus. During the three day meeting several white and colored speakers addressed the farmers, including Lovelace Eve, Editor of Americus Times-Record; Col. J. E. D. Shipp; H. B. Littleton, Randal Wiggins and Woodlief, Secretary of Americus and Sumter County Chamber of Commerce; H. A. Cliett, County Agent; S. S. Humbert, director of Masonic Orphans Home; P. H. Stone, state agent of negro extension work and F. R. Lampkin, principal of Americus Institute.

The negro farmers were urged to produce sufficient supply of food at home. They were told to stop allowing expensive farm implements to remain out in the weather, to take better care of their automobiles and see to it that these cars be used as a time-saver instead of pleasure alone.

Col. Shipp made a masterful plea urging the large group of negro farmers to educate their children and telling them how expensive ignorance is to Sumter county.

Humbert and Lampkin urged the farmers to send their children to Americus Institute. The farmers were advised to use automobiles in transporting their children each day to and from Americus Institute if they are unable to allow them to board at the school.

Elbert Stallworth, who promoted the farmers institute and barbecue, stated that during the 14 continuous years of rural work he has been doing that in his opinion, the greatest need of rural development among negro farmers is education. That 100 per cent of the disturbances at night around negro churches and schools was the direct results of ignorance. He urged the farmers to do everything

adopted:

We, the colored farmers of Sumter county gathered for our Second Annual Barbecue and mass meeting realize the tremendous value of the information and inspiration which we get at these annual meetings. Therefore, we wish to express to the Chamber of Commerce and the white citizens of Americus our very keen appreciation for their donations and interest which make these meeting possible.

We wish likewise to express our deepest thanks to Americus Institute which has placed at our disposal its plant and equipment thus joining hands with the good white people of Americus and Sumter county in encouraging us to do better farming.

We believe that we are now facing a new age of agriculture development. To keep pace with these new conditions, we must grow as much of our food supplies at home as possible in order to keep more of our cotton money in Sumter county instead of constantly buying the things which can be grown here. We must manage to sell some hogs, poultry products, vegetables and other farm crops in addition to cotton thus bringing into the county additional cash.

In the operation of our farms, we realize the necessity for honesty, therefore, we set up as one of our goals; honesty in our dealings with our landlords and promptness in meeting our obligations.

A man's home life influences every action that he makes and we believe that better kept and more congenial homes in Sumter county among the Negro farmers will result in a better and more desirable type of people; therefore we urge the landlords of the county to encourage the people on their farms to make their homes more attractive and comfortable. In this connection we also urge the landlords to see to it that all homes on their farms are screened to prevent contagious diseases from spreading over the county

We also urge that inducements be offered toward having good gardens and chickens.

We are deeply interested in the education of our children; because of this and our desire to see Sumter county take the leadership in good school buildings, efficient teachers, better salaries and longer school terms, we pledge a more active interest in our schools and urge the continued interest of the County Board of Education in this respect.

We are fortunate in having the Americus Institute right at our doors offering high school training to our children, thus saving thousands of dollars to us that we otherwise would have to spend to give our children high school training by sending them out of the county to other schools. We must give fuller support to Americus Institute both moral and financial well as patronizing it with our children.

We wish to further thank the committee and E. Stallworth our farm demonstration agent for making this meeting one of the most successful ever held in this section.

Atlanta, Ga.—In the five years ending with 1925 Georgia lost more than one-third of its Negro farmers, according to study of federal census reports just made by Arthur F. Raper, secretary of the Georgia Committee on Race Relations. From a total in 1920 of 130,187 colored farmers, including owners, managers, and tenants, the number declined in five years to 84,077, a net loss of 46,110, or 35.4 per cent. The number of Negro tenants declined from 113,938 to 72,206, or 36.7 per cent; the number of owners and managers fell from 16,240 to 11,871, or 26.9 per cent. Assuming that most of these farmers were heads of families, it is estimated that this meant a total population loss of two hundred thousand or more.

**The "Black Belt" Is Rapidly
Breaking Up.**

During the same period there was also a falling off in the number of white farmers, but the losses were not nearly so heavy, being 6.8 per cent for tenants, 0.7 per cent for owners and managers and 8.6 per cent in the aggregate. In 1920 there were in the state 180,545 white farmers, against 165,018 and 84,077 respectively in 1925, showing a rapid decline in the proportion of Negro farmers to the total rural population. The so-called "black belt," it is said, is rapidly breaking up, as Negroes leave the farms for southern cities and northern industrial centers. A study of certain typical Georgia counties is now being made, in the effort to determine both the nature and the causes of this migration.

During the five-year period in question the entire South lost 9,450 Negro farmers, or practically ten per cent of the total. Among these were 24,152 owners and managers, or eleven per cent of that group. South Carolina lost 18,429 colored farmers, or 16.8 per cent, Mississippi 11,077, or 6.9 per cent, Alabama, 9,882, or 10.4 per cent, Arkansas, 8,999, or 12.4 per cent, Tennessee 3,535, or 9.2 per cent, Louisiana, 2,546, or 4 per cent, Kentucky 1,911, or 31.1 per cent, and Florida 842, or 7.2 per cent. On the other hand, Oklahoma with 20,048 colored farmers in 1925 showed a gain of 7 per cent, Texas with 81,726 a gain of 3.8 per cent, Maryland with 6,721, a gain of 8.2 per cent, Virginia with 0,147, a gain of 5 per cent, and North Carolina with 80,966, a gain of 6.1 per cent.

Poor schools and low wages, no doubt, contributed largely to the Negroes leaving the South. For example, North Carolina, a Southern state, which pays good wages and provides good schools for its colored citizens in the rural district as well as in the city did not suffer a loss of colored farmers, but made a gain of 6.1 per cent of its rural colored population during the past five years.

aspires to be the nominee of that show the public what is being done party for the presidency. He has there and what can be done elsewhere professed that he is the friend of around Augusta. the Negroes of this state. If there is sincerity in this profession he should at once publicly demand of his national party justice for Negroes in the South. He will not do this, because he does not wish to offend the southern delegates whose votes at the convention he wants.

A NEGRO FARMER

J. F. Thompson came to Augusta some 35 years ago from Union Point and started work as a drayman on Cotton Row. Long years of service have incapacitated him for further work, but his son Charles carries on, and Harold, another son, is the farmer of the family, augmented by his mother, Ann Thompson, who started the family out in agriculture.

Harold began his work as a mere youth and rented land a short time until he bargained to buy a farm, the Taylor Hill place down the river, consisting of some 900 acres of land, and when this was settled for he bought, with the assistance of other members of the family, the Lombard and Holmes tracts, comprising another 400 acres, and has under lease at present 150 acres more of land, or a total of about 1500 acres.

Last year upward of 10,000 bushels of corn was grown, more than 15,000 bales of hay, more than 30 bales of cotton, and oats galore. He has sold thousands of bushels of oats, Fulghum seed oats, one Augustan buying 2000 bushels and M. M. Daniels of Millen buying 2000 bushels. On the farm today are more than 300 acres of the finest oats imaginable, oats that make 50 or 75 bushels per acre.

The farm is equipped with tractors, power presses and other modern supplies that make farming in the Savannah River Valley a success. The story is one remarkable in that it shows what can be done in farming around Augusta, and there is no question but that some day every acre of fertile valley land of this section will be utilized for agricultural purposes, and it is certain that two blades of grass, or even five or six, will be made to grow where only one has grown heretofore.

The lesson of these colored farmers is one that ought to be inspirational throughout this entire section, and a visit to the place, six or seven miles down the Savannah River road, will

corn and 10 000 bales of choice native hay. Phone 2140-J.

"That is nothing extraordinary in itself, but to this section there is something striking about it. Investigation discloses the fact that the offerings are native grown, and, more than that, produced by a colored farmer, or rather family of farmers.

"J. F. Thompson came to Augusta some 35 years ago from Union Point and started work as a dairyman on Cotton Row. Long years of service have incapacitated him for further work, but his son, Charles, carries on, and Harold, another son is the farmer of the family, augmented by his mother, John Ann Thompson, who started the family out in agriculture.

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"Last year upward of 10,000 bushels of corn was grown, more than 15 000 bales of hay, more than 30 bales of cotton and oats galore. He has sold thousands of bushels of oats. Fulghum seed oats, one Augustan buying 2,000 bushels and M. M. Daniels of Millen buying 2 000 bushels. On the farm today is more than 300 acres of the finest oats imaginable, oats that make 50 or 75 bushels per acre.

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"The lessons of these colored farmers is one that ought to be inspirational throughout this entire section, and a visit to the place, six

or seven miles down the Savannah River road, will show the public what is being done there and what can be done elsewhere around Augusta.

"With the construction of immense dams above Augusta for water power purposes, plus the building of locks below the city for navigation purposes, the flood control of the Savannah River would be well-nigh perfect. With this done, a vast acreage could be opened up with a reasonable degree of safety from any overflow and farming on an extensive scale could be carried on from every viewpoint around Augusta. It is worth considering and means great things for those who go into the proposition and pursue the work on an intelligent basis.

"Anybody who has some 8 000 bushels of fine corn and 10 000 bales of choice native hay to sell at this season has little to worry about in making a success of agricultural operations. The Thompson family, colored, is doing much to demonstrate the possibilities in farming, and it is a great pity that thousands of both white and black farmers of this section do not emulate their example and grow the things needed at home.

"In addition to these staple crops, the Thompsons grow quite a quantity of hogs, some chickens, some truck and other products that contribute to swelling the coffers of the family."

Anybody who has some 8000 bushels of fine corn and 10,000 bales of choice native hay to sell at this season has little to worry about in making a success of agricultural operations. The Thompson family, colored, is doing much to demonstrate the possibilities in farming, and it is a great pity that thousands of both white and black farmers of this section do not emulate their example and grow the things needed at home.

In addition to these staple crops, the Thompsons grow quite a quantity of hogs, some chickens, some truck and other products that contribute to swelling the coffers of the family. — Manufacturers Record.

REMARKABLE WORK OF FARMING BY NEGRO FAMILY

The Augusta Chronicle in a recent issue tells the story of what a negro family in that section has done in the way of farming development, which is inspiring as showing what the South can do in that line and what intelligent negroes, with the hearty co-operation of the white people, can accomplish in farming in the South.

In its report of the farming operations of one colored family the Chronicle says:

"In the Chronicle appears the following significant advertisement that ought to be inspirational to the farmers of this entire section:

"FOR SALE—8 000 bushels of

Agriculture

Illinois

Improvement of
**MACHINE PERFECTED
FOR COTTON PICKING**

(By Leased Wire to The Constitution.)

Chicago, Ill., September 2.—Another picturesque feature of the old south is on its way to the discard, with perfecting of a machine that will pick cotton. It will supplant the armies of singing, lurching negroes of both sexes and all ages working through the vast whiteness of the cotton fields.

It is destined to create a revolution in the cotton business fully as important as the cotton gin, the spinning jenny and the reaper. The International Harvester company announced today that the new machine will cut the last bolt that has tied the cotton planters to slow and costly hand labor and it will give hundreds of thousands of negroes to other employment. Two men can operate a picker—one to drive the tractor hauling and the other to manipulate the machine. They can pick two to five bales a day, equivalent to what two men could do by hand labor in eight to fifteen days.

The International Harvester company has been working on the machine for years, and now announces three machines which have stood hard tests. One picker of the spindle type is for use in the lowlands.

A second machine, known as a stripper or boller, is designed for harvesting upland cotton, which matures quickly and ripens evenly. The third machine is used to clean stripped cotton fiber and bolls. Its spindles pick only the lint, rejecting all other material and conveys the lint automatically to a wagon, all ready for the gin.

A limited number of the machines are now working under close observation in various parts of the south and it is believed the problem of gathering the cotton crop quickly and completely has been solved.

URGE YOUNG MEN TO STUDY FARM METHODS

Southern Illinois Offers Future

"In this age of cities with its whirlwind living, the country is the only place for contentment," declared

Andrew Cross, 60-year-old fruit and berry grower of Villa Ridge Ill., last week while in the city to attend the grand lodge session of the Prince Hall Free and Accepted Masons of Illinois as treasurer of the organization, at Unity Ill. He also transacted business with a large fruit commission firm in the city as one of their local buyers and representatives.



Andrew Cross

Mr. Cross has been interested in fruit and berry growing since early manhood, having been born within one mile of his farm. The farmer stated that his season of work is from early spring until late November, when the countryside settles down for the winter. He enjoys the cold season with his family of eight, reading and visiting his neighbors. Two of the sons attend high schools in the two nearby towns, Mounds and Sandusky, which have been brought close by the highway motor coach transportation.

Young Men Must Prepare

"I am a firm believer in the open country and the possibilities of southern Illinois for fruit growing. Our young men should not all join the ranks of the city dwellers, leaving the fertile soil to the young men of other groups. Many of them should attend the scientific agricultural colleges scattered throughout the Middle West and prepare themselves to earn a living by the fruits of the soil. All the products of my farm are sold without delay to Chicago markets and commission fruit firm agents who come to my district from the East before harvest time," the farmer asserted.

Ag. culture 1917

Kentucky

Improvement of
NEGRO POULTRY KING
CARRIES AWAY
NATIONAL HONORS

(By The Associated Negro Press)

Louisville, Ky., Dec. 19—Frank Willis, styled as the Negro Poultry King, and having won many prizes, has added another feather to his cap. Mr. Willis recently entered his Cornish chickens at the National Poultry Show held in Chicago and carried away all of the first prizes and several second prizes and a third prize. Mr. Willis has won more prizes with his chickens than any known race poultry raiser in this country. He also won first prize for having the best chicken exhibit in Chicago at the National Show.

Agriculture-1927

Improvement

Louisiana

untiring efforts of our colored home-demonstration agent, Miss Stazia Hutson."

—Southren Workman.

JAN 5 1927

A PROGRESSIVE COLORED FARMER

One of the most successful farmers of Standard, Louisiana, is Philip Baner. His annual income is approximately \$1750; his assets \$6491. He owns 45 acres of land valued at \$3,000, which is improved as follows: residence \$1700, three quarters of a mile of wire fencing \$179, one quarter of a mile of miscellaneous fencing \$50, and miscellaneous buildings \$250. He has steel fencing, brick and other material for future improvement worth, \$50, farm implements, wagons, etc., valued at \$200, and livestock worth \$375.

Although he bought the place only four years ago—a dense mass of saplings, briars and vines—today he has a modern farm with seventeen acres of cleared land. His orchard, an excellent young one, consists of thirty-five trees—apple, peach, and pear—to which he is expecting to add at least thirty trees this fall.

"My success is due largely to our make-it-at-home program," he said, "not to my efforts alone but also to those of my family. From my potatoes, peanuts, peas, cane, garden truck, poultry, hogs and cows I obtain the major portion of our food, as well as considerable revenue. Aside from these I get some money from wood and other timbered products which I market occasionally.

"At present there are upon our store shelves one hundred cans of vegetables and ample home-made jellies, jams and preserves to tide us over the slack season. In this we owe our success to the

Improvement of

Admission Miss. Fl. Ind. Ex.

A Fine Dairy Record by Negro.

A most remarkable record of dairy farming in Noxubee county by one of Noxubee's industrious negro farmers, Louis Dooly, has just come to light. Dooly was a cotton farmer striving to make a living growing cotton until six years ago when he had the misfortune to lose one arm, making it next to impossible for him to continue growing cotton. It was at this point that he decided to try dairying as he had some children who could do the milking.

He bought a farm of 256 acres for \$2,500, a few cows and a cream separator, all on credit. In three years' time Louis was meeting his payments so well that he decided to buy another piece of land of 144 acres. For this he promised to pay 5,275, with interest at six percent.

In these six years he has built his herd up to 55 cows, and reduced his notes down to \$530 on the first place and \$1,500 on the last one he bought. He raises no cotton whatever, but sells annually about \$500 worth of hogs and a portion of the increase in his herd. In addition to this he has built and paid for a nice home and other improvements from the proceeds of his dairy.

Louis Dooly's method of saving to meet his financial obligations is to keep cream checks at home until a large number have accumulated, or until a note comes due, when he takes them to the bank to be cashed and the

notes paid. He says that by doing this he can save his money and meet his obligations. Another thing that can be said to his credit is that he never has to be notified of a note or an account being due.

When asked as to a comparison of his results with cotton farming with dairy farming, his response was quick with the statement, "I am making more money in one year dairying with one arm than I made in five years raising cotton alone with both arms."

—Macon Beacon.

Agriculture - 1927
Improvement of
Raleigh, N. C., News & Observer

JAN 3 1927 NEGRO FARMERS WILL DIVERSIFY

Both Tenants and Landowners Adopt New System In Bertie County

By C. R. HUDSON,
Farm Demonstration Division, North Carolina State College.

Many Negro farmers in Bertie and Pasquotank counties are not only making a substantial living on their farms, but some of them have good bank accounts. This is attributable to the good methods used and good management followed.

Although W. M. Mitchell, of Bertie, is a tenant on a 200-acre farm, he cultivated only 35 acres. Of this amount, he has in cotton five acres, tobacco 9 acres, peanuts 10 acres, corn 7 acres, with some of the land devoted to orchard and vegetables.

He grows practically all needed of such crops as hay, potatoes, pork, vegetables, poultry and eggs, milk and butter. His money, or sale crops, are cotton, tobacco, peanuts, milk and butter, poultry and eggs, and potatoes. For soil improvement crops, he depends mainly on soybeans.

An interesting case is that of D. C. Gilliam of Windsor, N. C., a man who, after serving 30 years in the Army, took up farming six years ago. When asked how he could hope to make a success of farming after 30 years spent elsewhere, he replied that he had not gotten into a one-system rut, but, through the help of the negro farm agent, was using the most modern and successful methods. Although he owns 35 acres of land, he states that he can do better on 9 acres than if he attempted to cultivate more.

This year he has 2 acres in cotton, 3 acres in peanuts and 4 acres in corn. In order to improve his soil, he plants velvet beans and soybeans in his corn acreage and, wherever possible, grows a winter crop of vetch and clover. He sells pork, poultry and eggs, milk and butter from two cows, and potatoes.

His dwelling is in excellent condition. He has, through the help of the Local Agent, just completed a mod-

ern poultry house and expects to increase his poultry flock, because, as he stated, he finds poultry-growing a profitable business.

In Pasquotank County, Oscar Temple of Elizabeth City, R. F. D., cultivates 56 acres with four horses. He has 20 acres in cotton, 30 in corn, 6 in small grain, 4 in pasture, with a garden and some truck.

He produces what he needs in the way of corn, hay, potatoes, sorghum, pork, vegetables, poultry and eggs, milk and butter. His sale crops are pork, vegetables, poultry and eggs, milk and butter, sorghum, potatoes, turkeys, and occasionally a beef. He uses soybeans and rye to improve his soil.

His six-room house is white-washed and in good condition. His 3 children all attend school.

Henry Williams, a neighbor of his, cultivates 43 acres as a renter, but planted this year only five acres of that amount to cotton. He has 15 acres, or three times that amount, in corn. He grew 8 acres in small grain, has 3 acres in pasture, with some land devoted to orchard and garden.

He grows on his farm practically all he needed in the way of farm crops, sells some corn, pork, vegetables, poultry and eggs, milk and butter, sorghum, potatoes. By this method, he is laying aside some money each year with which to purchase the place he is living on. His family is a good example of thrift.

Another good farmer out from Elizabeth City is James C. Cartwright. Although he owns a 60-acre farm, he cultivates only 35 acres of the amount. He has a good milk cow, 40 hens and a good sized herd of swine. His sale crops are cotton, of which he has seven acres, Irish potatoes, peas, and poultry and eggs. He uses soybeans and rye for soil improvement.

He has a comfortable dwelling surrounded by flowers and shrubbery, and a new barn. He is a good and influential community worker. His seven children all attend school during the school season.

Randerson, N. C. Dispatch

DEC 28 1926

TO ADVANCE NEGRO AGRICULTURE WORK

Great Interest Manifested On Part of Negro Leaders of State

Greensboro, Dec. 28.—(A)—Agricultural advancement of the negro farmer of North Carolina looms with announcement of an extensive extension service.

Prof. F. D. Bluford, president of the Agricultural and Technical College here, chairman of an advisory council just organized, today reported securing the united backing of leading negroes of the State to further the program of agricultural advancement.

The council idea grew out of invitation from L. E. Hall, negro district agent for State College, to farmers, educators and business men from among the leading negroes of the State.

Responding to this invitation one farmer came 200 miles to attend the meeting. A normal school principal came 175 miles and the president of a negro teachers' college came 110 miles, all at their own expense, to help in the work.

Prof. T. S. Inborden was elected secretary and Berry O'Kelly, of Method, treasurer. Board members selected were Anna W. Holland, Dr. S. G. Atkins, Dr. Bluford, J. H. Bias, Dr. C. S. Brown, Dr. G. A. Edwards, C. E. Epps, R. J. Beverly, J. F. Lytle, Dr. E. E. Smith, Erry O'Kelly and W. S. Turner.

This board, Prof. Bluford said, will have no program of its own but will put itself squarely behind the work of the extension service in its activities with the negro farmer. It will meet annually at some selected point to consider the work being done for negroes. The board then will pass on this work and will make suggestions for its improvement and promotion.

Dean I. O. Schaub said the organization of the advisory council will be of great help to the negro demonstration agents. The council plans

for the extension and educational forces of the State to join hands in making the program of work more effective.

APR 28 1927

Progress Recorded in Negro Extension Work

Negro farmers in North Carolina working with the local extension agents are making commendable progress, observes C. R. Hudson who has charge of the work.

At the present time, there are 19 local Negro agents at work with the colored farmers of North Carolina and last year these agents planned to have 8,556 farm demonstrations. They actually conducted 7,993 or 93 percent of those planned. This was made possible, Mr. Hudson, states by the fine cooperation given the agents by local leaders among the colored people. Then, too, he finds that the agents worked with groups of men rather than with individuals entirely. The demonstrations covered the entire range of farm activities.

This year, much attention is being given to establishing home gardens. It is planned to have a garden on each farm in the territory where the agents are at work. The gardens are to be well balanced having some root crops, seed crops, leaf crops and fruit crops. Particular attention will be given to soil preparation and fertilization and at the proper time encouragement will be given to canning and preserving vegetables and fruits for winter use.

In a number of counties, this garden work will be accelerated by special contests in which prizes will be awarded. The gardens will be visited and judged and proper recognition given those colored farmers who seriously attempt to produce the food needs of the family at home.

Mr. Hudson finds that wherever

er he goes in North Carolina the Negro farmers are making an effort to improve their farming conditions and many of the more progressive men are studying how to produce their food and feed crops on the home farm

Raleigh, N. C., News & Observer

JUL 4 1927

DOING GARDEN WORK WITH NEGRO FARMERS

By C. R. HUDSON,
Farm Demonstration Division, North Carolina State College.

One of the outstanding features of agricultural work with Negroes in North Carolina is the Garden campaign started last spring. This work

was begun in the eighteen counties having Negro farm demonstration agents. The gardens were to be planted and handled under the direct supervision of these agents and judged according to the location number of vegetables grown and quantity grown on a given acreage.

Judging has just been completed in the gardens of Martin, Pitt, Pasquotank, Hertford and Bertie counties and shows a general average of 78 per cent on all gardens. The highest average score was 82 per cent made by the Pitt county Negroes and the lowest was 71 per cent for the gardens scored in Hertford county.

One very noticeable result of this work is the abandonment of planting gardens out in the field a considerable distance from the residence and having them up near the house for convenience. Of course the gardens near the house are being fenced to keep out poultry and other undesirable farm stock. Still another noticeable feature is a great increase in the number of vegetables grown per garden, the average number in the first three counties mentioned being fourteen per garden instead of from about three to five as is usually found in Negro gardens.

One of the best gardens found was that of William Sherrod and his wife, in Martin county. The records taken from them show that from about three-eighths of an acre they have sold up to this time \$74 worth of vegetables, which is at the rate of about \$200 per acre. To count the vegetables eaten and to be eaten, canned preserved and others yet to be sold, the full value will probably run around \$400 per acre.

Several vegetables have already matured and been removed from the land, but they still have tomatoes, beets (lima and snap beans, cucumbers, squash, collards, cabbage and

roasting-eat corn growing in the garden. Turnips, mustard, kale, Irish full swing and is proving to be most interesting not only to the Negro gardeners, but to the officials of the Extension Service who have promoted the work. Contests are on in most of the counties. The last judging will be completed the last of July on all gardens from the work where the work is conducted.

Peanut Industry Now a Major Enterprise.

Norfolk, Jan. 8.—[Special.]—Belief that the peanut industry, as a comprehensive whole, in time will become one of the greatest industries of the South has developed in North Carolina and has spread to this part of Virginia since the recent Peanut Exposition at Windsor, N. C. Nearly 200 products from the peanut already have been evolved by Dr. George W. Carver of Tuskegee Institute, and in the peanut area the assertion is advanced that the peanut has usurped the throne long occupied by "King Cotton."

Manufacturers Record
An interesting feature of the exposition was a promise made by Representative J. H. Kerr, Second District, North Carolina, to urge adequate protection, through the tariff, for the American peanut against successful competition by imports from China and other countries. Although preferring a tariff for revenue to an American protective tariff, Representative Kerr said that if industries were to be protected the peanut industry must be included in the list.

In describing some of the uses of peanut products, Judge Francis D. Winston said:

1-13-27
"The most exclusive and epicurean hotel in the world could serve a peanut menu with edible, wholesome and nourishing dishes made of peanut products. Also, the peanut has entered 'my lady's boudoir' and displayed costly cosmetics and cherished cologne and costly powders. Its baled vines are running baled hay out of the markets, and stock fed thereon frolic and gambol—sleek and fat.

"You rise in the morning and put your foot on the floor stained with half a dozen colors of 'Peanut Wood Stains. You put on your shoes which have heels made of 'Peanut Rubber.' You lather your face to shave with 'Peanut Anti-septic Soap.' You bathe your face and hands with the aid of 'Peanut Toilet Soap.' You go to your breakfast and eat 'Peanut Breakfast Food,' while your wife is preparing instant 'Peanut Coffee' mixed with 'Peanut Cream.' You butter your bread made of 'Peanut Flour' with your 'Peanut Butter.' You order 'Peanut Mock Oysters' to complete the meal. If you wish relishes and condiments at a meal, you have 'Peanut Vinegar,' 'Peanut Pickles' and 'Peanut Worcestershire Sauce.' Your table linen is snowy white from 'Peanut Laundry Soap.' As it feeds mankind all sufficiently so it feeds fowls, cattle, horses, hogs and other stock.

"We have 'Peanut Dyes' for cloth, and 'Peanut Oils' for every use. We have four varieties of 'Peanut Brickett' for fuel. We have 'Peanut Beverages' for ice cream. We have every variety of 'Peanut Candy' and conserve. We have 'Peanut Paste' for shoe shining, and 'Peanut Goitre' for sore throat.

"The cry 'Cotton is King' is heard no more. Cotton stands today uncrowned and discredited before 'Prince Peanut. The fact is, cotton has seen its day in North Carolina."

Agriculture - 1927
Improvement of

CHARLESTON
SOUTH CAROLINA

JUN 16 1927

On the Front Page

Anderson Robinson, colored farmer, Route 2, Williston, is another public benefactor. A dispatch to The State, Columbia, tells that he has put the first ripe South Carolinian watermelons on the market. He sold two in Williston last Tuesday weighing twenty and fifteen pounds, and says that from a seven-acre field he can pick at least five hundred ripe melons this week.

Everyone knows that the finest watermelons in the world come from Williston and the region roundabout (possibly excepting the neighborhood of Lamar in Darlington County), and it is good tidings to thousands of people that as early as June 14 the Williston melons are ready to be cut.

Anderson Robinson, colored farmer, puts Williston again on the front page, where it well deserves to be.

CLARENDON NEGRO
FARMER SUCCEEDS
COLUMBIA S. C. 1927

County Agent Rast Writes of

Richard Miller and His

JUL 27 1927

To the Editor of The State:

One of the most outstanding farmers of the Negro race is one R. G. Miller. He should be an example to our Negro farmers, and as a matter of fact many of our white farmers could profit by his methods. We are going to publish a few facts about Richard.

Richard this year is planting four acres of cotton on a two-horse farm. He plants no tobacco. Another year he does not anticipate planting any cotton, but expects to plant a few acres of tobacco. He has practically eliminated cotton from his farm program. In spite of absence of (or almost) these cash crops, the following is the condition of Richard Miller. He owes no man. There is no mortgage on his farm. He doesn't owe a penny on this year's crop. This year Richard built a new barn that he states cost about \$700. He paid cash for this. He has sold the following produce from his farm:

Hay	327.18
Peas	132.50
Corn	512.20
Hogs	236.12
Oats, seed	711.70

Total \$1,919.70

He still has for sale 400 bushels of corn and three tons of hay from last year's crop. The corn will be shipped this week at \$1 per bushel. He has

sold some chickens and eggs, also potatoes, but he states that he kept no record of this. He is going to keep a record of everything this year; also of his expenses, because he realizes this is good business.

Richard does not own a car, but he is more able to own one than a lot of people who do. He does not handle the false gold that comes from cotton and tobacco for a few hours only, to be passed on to someone else. Richard Miller is honest, he fears debt, and that is the reason he has cut out cotton. And above all, he is building the fertility of his land by the method of farming he is pursuing, and that is the main reason for the success of the Dutchman and Dane of the MacRae colony at Wilmington.

F. M. RAST,
County Agent.

Manning.

First Bale of Cotton Sold
By Colored Man in S. C.

Hampton, S. C.—The first bale of 1927 cotton was brought to Hampton today by W. H. Johnson, and was ginned at the local gin.

The bale when ginned weighed 467 pounds, and was sold by Mr. Johnson to J. B. Rivers for 16½ cents per pound, or \$77.65½.

This is not only the first bale in Hampton count, but as far as can be learned here is the first 1927 bale in South Carolina.

An Ex-Slave's Example.

To The Commercial Appeal:

I have been a reader of The Commercial Appeal for more than 20 years. I have watched its growth in usefulness and power. I am any judge of things, The Commercial Appeal is far away the most influential newspaper published in the south. For these reasons, one is led to believe that its large and intelligent readership is well able to understand the discussions as to our economic condition as farmers in this part of the country.

Memphis territory is the best country, from an agricultural standpoint, in the world. I am convinced, despite the reports in the public prints, of many youthful laxities, and some really bad escapades, that the world is growing better. The reason I think the world is growing better along most lines is that there are more and greater opportunities; we have advanced in education; we have a broader view and a higher appreciation of religion and of spiritual values; we are more tolerant of the beliefs of each other and have a larger understanding of what is true Christianity and are giving fuller attention to the truths of science without worrying over scientific speculation. The awful world war has minimized racial dislikes and prejudices and brought the whole human family into better acquaintance. Races and nations are getting a clearer view of things from an economic standpoint.

The great world war has given a new impetus to engineering. It awakened the votaries of medical science to powers for good that was undreamed of a few years ago. The disease enemies of mankind have been, in many cases, routed and conquered. Transportation has been revolutionized and distance annihilated. The dormant powers of nature have been awakened and chained to the chariot wheels of man's progress and convenience.

I have been under the treatment of the doctor for more than 12 months. Yet I have sat in my room on Sundays and listened to some of the best sermons through WMC that I have ever heard.

I am 75 years old. When I was a boy I used to ride behind my mistress, to carry her keys and to open the gates for her. I have two scars upon my body, left as a memento of the strict discipline to which I was subjected. She was a highly educated and accomplished lady. I do not feel ashamed of those scars, as they helped me to understand that duty comes first.

While living on the Bond farm we made one crop in the time of the Civil War without a grain of corn and did not even see flour. We had some wheat which we cracked and mashed and from this we got our bread. We dug up the floor of the smokehouse and soaked our salt

from the diggings, yet we were healthy and happy. I started farming on a small scale for several years and then I rented a farm for \$1,200. I paid my rent and kept my boys in college. For eight or nine years I did not get over a nickel a pound for cotton in that time. I sold 40 bales of middling cotton once for 33-4 cents a pound.

I learned to demonstrate the importance of shallow cultivation 20 years before the government started the demonstration work. I deserve no credit for this as I did not know what I was doing. Poverty had forced me to it.

The mules used for farming at that time were worth from \$200 to \$255 each. I thought that I could not afford to pay \$225 for one mule, so I bought 12 or 15 old plugs at a cost of \$45 to \$75 each. These mules were all bunged up with big shoulder, sweeney and spavin. They were in a bad shape generally. I went to Texas and bought a lot of little Texas mules. The highest priced mule in the lot did not cost over \$45. They were poor and did not know how to eat corn. I would put one plug and one Texas mule together and hitch them to one horse-turning plow. The land was sandy loam. The worst trouble I had was to keep the plow out of the ground. When the land was all broke, I would single them out and was thus able to cultivate all the land. I was compelled to cultivate shallow because the mules were not strong enough to plow deep. All my neighbors were at a loss to know how I made so much corn and cotton. I was unable to tell them. I continued to farm in this way. Twenty years later, the government came along, telling the farmer to break deep and cultivate shallow so as to conserve the moisture and not break the feed roots. I said, "There now, I have been demonstrating the method of shallow cultivation and did not know it."

During all these years, I grew plenty of hogs and cattle. Every time I sent my wagons to town, I sent a load of lard, or hams, or chickens, eggs and butter, with the result that what cotton I grew was clear profit less the rent. A few years later, I was paying taxes on 5,000 acres of land in the St. Francis basin. My real and personal taxes exceeded \$15,000 a year.

Now, reader, stop and think. If an ex-slave can start with nothing, give all his children a college education, pay his obligations, and this same ex-slave less than two weeks with schooling, can accomplish these things, what should we southern people do now with all our schools, colleges and universities, public and private; with the marvelous means of transportation of people, thought and commodities; with the nation's markets in a few hours of our fields and cow pens; with the world's market reports given us twice daily by radio?

I believe the world is growing better. If we could only get back to first principles of living at home and improving our opportunities.

At the close of the Civil War, the south was prostrate, financially and

otherwise. The master and his former slave each looked at the other. Neither knew what to do. A new economic system had to be created. This system, with its opportunities for good and evil, brings us largely to our present condition. Let experience be our guide. Grow feed and food. Utilize the opportunities that come to us.

We have sold this year 500 bales of cotton. We have on hand registered hogs, registered cattle and registered chickens. My boys, their families and myself live at home and we are happy.

We can only overcome backsets by tireless effort. These we are making while we watch the world grow better.

SCOTT BOND.

Madison, Ark.

Agriculture-1927
Improvement of

Texas.

Colored Farmers Score In South

Prize Winners In Agricultural Contest. Outdo Their Rivals

TYLER, Texas., Feb. 17—The colored farmers of Smith county completely outdid all other competitors in the agricultural contest conducted by the Smith County Agricultural Council. A total of \$1,000 in prizes was contributed by a committee Thursday to winners of the contest last spring for the outstanding yields of upland and bottom land cotton, and feed and the best financial returns from the poultry industry.

Judge J. W. Fitzgerald who made the awards took occasion to compliment the colored farmers stating that 42 of those who continued all thru the contest were Negroes, and that they are showing much interest in the better farming campaign sponsored through the ten-year agricultural and soil improvement campaign now entering its fourth year.

Some of the colored prize winners Joe Warren, first prize (\$150) for raising 5060 pound of bottom land lint cotton; Will Johnson, second prize (\$50) for raising 247 bushels of corn, and 1000 bushels of fodder; John Greenleaf second prize (\$50) for raising 316 bushels of corn, and Ben Hartsfield, third prize (\$25) for raising 4221 pounds of Upland Lint cotton.

TEXAS COLORED FARMERS

Washington, Aug. 3.—Texas has 253 counties in 75 of which there are no colored farmers. In the other 178 there are 81,726, of whom 20,841 or about 24% are owners. Slightly more than 50% of these owners live in twenty counties, led in the order named by Harrison, Smith, Fisk, Cass, Bowie and Houston. Of the 383,920 white farmers in the state, 163,135 or 42% are owners. To 55,000 of these colored and white farmers the Federal Agricultural Credit System has loaned \$160,000 on first mortgages and has reduced the interest rate from 10 per cent to 5 and 5½ per cent which, according to the Dallas Journal, representing an annual saving in interest of \$4,000,000 to the farmers who have taken advantage of the benefits of the system.

Agriculture - 1927

Improvement of New Farmers of Virginia

Of more than passing interest is the organization lately formed among students of vocational agriculture of the State known as the New Farmers of Virginia. The chief objective of this organization, as we understand it, is to promote a keen interest in farming among young men of the race who are already associated with agricultural pursuits and to help to produce better future farmers. That is the ultimate objective. In working toward that end, the New Farmers movement has annual objectives such as the establishment of thrift bank accounts by its members, the holding of father and son banquets, the completion of farm projects and the investment of a specified sum in farming by the various chapters each year.

This is a movement of the most far-reaching possibilities for good. It is organized under auspices of the Department of Agricultural Education of Virginia State College at Petersburg and the State Board for Vocational Education, thus being assured a large measure of success. Any movement aimed to stimulate interest in agriculture among the youth of our group and to make more capable farmers of those already associated with the fields is to be received as a real national benefit. Speaking of the New Farmers organization, Mr. N. B. Beanis, instructor of vocational agriculture in James City County, said: "We sincerely believe that the future success of the race lies to a large extent in its ability to produce better farmers." That belief is shared by the Journal and Guide, and the idea of encouraging more young men of our group to take to the farms and to become better farmers once they have chosen agriculture as their life's vocation should be given race-wide support.

ing to a statement recently made by Dr. H. O. Sargent, agent for the federal board for vocational education for Race schools in the South. The organization will be of great assistance to teachers as well as students in carrying out programs in vocational agriculture, Dr. Sargent declared. The most desirable feature in fostering such an organization is to develop an appreciative attitude toward co-operative organization through participation as well as putting up objectives in regard to the investment of money made in supervised practice work.

NEW FARMERS OF VIRGINIA TO INVEST \$15,000 IN FARMS

Two of the objectives of the New Farmers of Virginia for the year 1927-28 are a savings account for every member and \$15,000 invested in farming before July 1, 1928. The organization is the outgrowth of the annual meeting of agricultural instructors of Virginia schools which was held at Petersburg in 1926. The delegates voted to sponsor a state organization for students. All of the departments of vocational agriculture carrying out the recommendations of the agricultural instructors sent student representatives to the annual contest of agricultural students held at Petersburg last May to perfect the state organization of vocational agricultural. These representatives voted unanimously in favor of forming a state organization and elected the following officers: President, James P. Seaman; State college; vice president, Boyd Byrd, Caroline; secretary, Austin Charity, Charles City; treasurer, Kermit Branch, Chesterfield; reporter, Eldridge Jeter, Caroline; adviser, Prof. George W. Owens, State college; and directors, Gullie Taylor, Lancaster; Clifton Smith, Nansemond; Edward Garnett, Gloucester.

Virginia

FARMERS FORM AID SOCIETY IN VIRGINIA

To Invest in Statewide Farming System

Richmond, Va.—A state-wide organization of students of vocational agriculture that will afford an opportunity to pool experiences has been formed in Virginia under the name New Farmers of Virginia, accord-